



**Metropolitan  
Waste Control  
Commission**

**Office Memorandum**

**TO:** Distribution List

**DATE:** Dec 4, 1991

**FROM:** Jim Brown *JB*

**SUBJECT:** Project for 1991 - Emergency Damper Replacement

Just before he left, Jack Klein gave Dave Quast and me his final advice:

- \* "Buy low and sell high" - hold on, that was my broker. Jack said:
- \* "Take the home team and the points" - wait a minute, that must've been a bookie. Ah - here's what Jack said:
- \* "GET RID OF THE EMERGENCY DAMPERS."

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The issue here is air leakage onto Hearth 0 through the emergency damper. Air pulled in uses much energy being heated to 1200°F during the second or two it spends in Hearth 0. As the HO draft goes more negative, the amount of air leakage increases. This forces us to run lower HO draft values, which are then more likely to occasionally go positive and cause dumps.

So, we have 2 big benefits available from eliminating emergency damper air leakage:

1. Big-time gas savings.
2. Fewer dumps due to bigger drafts. (Note: ID fan won't have to move as much air, so bigger draft shouldn't put much extra load on it.)

How do we know we have got leakage and how much is it? Air Quality has conducted measurements that indicated a flow of 1300 cfm. In addition, when the access door by the emergency stack is opened, the air being pulled onto Hearth 0 can be felt moving.

What we have in mind is to build a wall across the emergency breach (8' wide and 4' high at ends, 5' high at center). The wall would have wall pipes or openings built in, with valves on the downstream side of the wall. As the emergency stack is needed, the valve positions will modulate. The valves will provide air-tight shut off when closed.

Distribution List  
December 4, 1991  
Page 2

So, where do we go from here? I would like to install a test system on one incinerator (probably #9 or #10) by the end of 1992. I will be assembling a team to begin planning after talking to everybody in advance to get initial recommendations. I would like to try to do this project in-house; I think we can handle it.

The following questions and tasks will have to be addressed:

- \* how to build the wall (Archie?)
- \* how much opening space would be needed? How many valves? (Maintenance Engineer?)
- \* what kind of valves could be used? (Maintenance Engineer?)
- \* what type of valve operators - electric, pneumatic or hydraulic? (Maintenance Engineer?)
- \* how we'd control the valves (existing cpu's)
- \* how we'd verify success? (Air Quality measurements)

I would like everyone on the distribution list to think about the concept and about their participation in it. Input will be solicited from the shop at the December pre-shut down meeting, and from Operations at the December Region 3 Chiefs meeting.

I think Jack has left us a real opportunity to offset some of the losses in incinerator economics caused by the 1200°F Hearth 0 limit. The 1991 gas cost will, as was predicted all along, be much higher than previous years. Maybe we can make a big dent in that increase. We will need everyone's help and talent to pull it off.

JB:fj

DAMPER92.MEM

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